

Remarks

Applicants are filing the present continuation application, instead of proceeding with the appeal in the parent application, Serial No. 09/496,271.

The specification for the continuation application has been amended to insert a cross reference to the parent application.

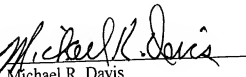
Original claims 1-8 have been replaced by new claims 9-14, which are the same as claims 11, 12, 7, 8, 13 and 14, respectively, in the parent application.

Restriction was required in the parent application, in response to which Applicants elected the subject matter of claims 11 and 12 in the parent application. Applicants respectfully request that, if restriction is required in the present continuation application on the same basis as in the parent application, Applicants be provided with a written restriction requirement instead of carrying the election in the parent application over to the present continuation application.

Respectfully submitted,

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